Seaview Academy

SPRING 2025 NEWSLETTER



PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Dear Seaview Families,

The 2024-25 school year has been a time of growth and new opportunities for both students and staff. I hope you're also finding time to relax and enjoy the spring season.

With an influx of new students, updates to Washington State's graduation pathways, and Seaview's ongoing commitment to being a student-centered online school, we haven't sent newsletters as frequently as in previous years. Too much time has passed since we last shared highlights and news about our students, staff, and school—so now is the perfect moment to do so, starting with an exciting update about Seaview's graduation ceremony!

Traditionally, as an online school, we have held a virtual commencement to recognize our graduates. However, this year, we are thrilled to announce that Seaview will host its first **in-person graduation ceremony** at **Field Arts & Events Hall** in Port Angeles (fieldhallevents.org) on **June 10th**. We will also livestream the event and recognize students who cannot attend, ensuring that all of our graduates are celebrated.
Many families have expressed a strong desire for a more traditional graduation experience, and we've worked hard to make it happen. We are excited to honor our Class of 2025 in a beautiful, high-quality venue—one of the best on the Olympic Peninsula. If you are a parent of a graduating student, stay tuned for more details about the event, including lodging and local area information.

Thank you for your continued support, and have a wonderful spring!

Best Regards,
Mace Gratz

SEMESTER 1 HONOR ROLL

Emily Adams
Pyper Alton
Cayleigh Alward
Madi Baier
Aaron Baker-Tisdale
Alex Biss
Maria Boyd
Grace Boyd-Harrison
Victoria De La Torre
Lainey Depiro
Aidan Dougherty
Juniper Egnew
Zoe Ernst
Luke Flodstrom
Brenna Furnice
Ryann Gallaway
Carsen Grooms
Kaleb Grooms
Tyrney Grossell
Alasdair Haire
Echo Hudson
Ava Hurn
Alice Johnson
Macha Johnson
Anthony Jones
Adam Kaminiski
Abigail Kimball
Vina Ly
Trinity Morefield
Hannah Perry
Avery Pickett
Brody Pierce
Reina Rafeh
Bishop Rose
Hayden Schultz
Riley Schultz
Evelyn Seelye
Cali Shearer
Adrian Simms
Vera Smith
Isabella Temres
Genesis Terrazas Amador
Cale Wentz
Zachary West
William White
Eli Woodward



SEAVIEW'S EARLY GRADUATES

ELLIOTT CUSTER

VICTORIA DE LA TORRE

CONOR DEWOLF

PHILLIP NICHOLLS



ORCA STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

PEMA RENNILSON



PEMA RENNILSON, GRADE 11, SHARED SOME PHOTOS OF HER PIECES THAT SHE CREATED AT PENINSULA COLLEGE



ORCA STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

BELLA GREIMES



BELLA GREIMES, GRADE 7, RIDES HORSES FOR FOUR HOURS A DAY.

Bella says, “I’ve been riding for 4 years and I want to become a professional show jumper. My favorite thing about riding is how you get to have a partner that you work with in the sport and you get to know them as your pet along with them being an athlete. They’re both girls, the red one’s name is Pixie and the bay is Phoenix.”



ORCA STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

PAIGE BISS

PAIGE BISS, GRADE 10, RECENTLY TRAVELED TO BELIZE WITH HER FAMILY. SHE SHARES AN ESSAY ABOUT HER TRAVELS HERE.



Belize is full of unique experiences and opportunities. For a late winter break trip, my family and I were blessed with the ability to explore some of these places. We stayed in San Ignacio for four days, and San Pedro for four days.

While in San Ignacio, we explored the ATM caves, which stands for "Actun Tunichil Muknal", an ancient Mayan sacred sacrificial site. The Mayans viewed caves as the underworld, which they believed that gods lived in, specifically the rain god, Chaac. These caves show the levels of desperation these ancient people went through the further you go into the caves.

During this time, there was a bad drought in the area. Crops were dying due to lack of water, and the Mayans were running out of food. So, they started offerings in the mouths of these caves.

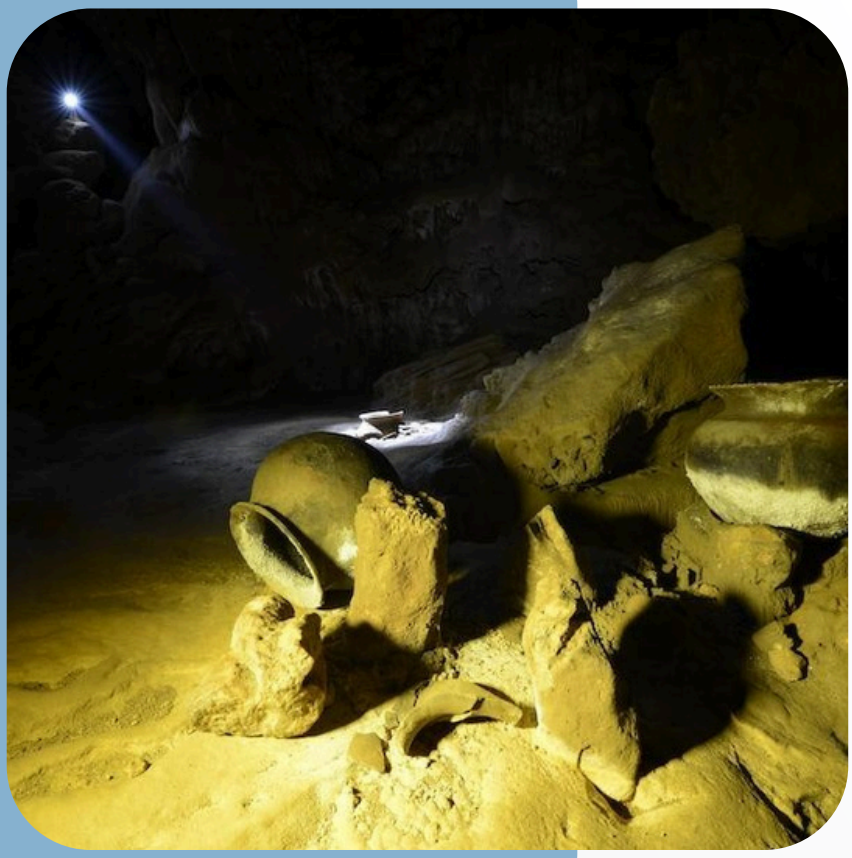
As we walked through the caves, it was interesting to think about how the Mayans must have traversed them back in their days.

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ORCA STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

PAIGE BISS

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They didn't have flashlights like we did; they swam with their torches. There were many spots in the caves where the water was so deep that we could not touch the ground. We crawled through many tight spaces, where some of us could barely fit. The caves are full of amazing stalactites and stalagmites, which we were not able to touch, since the oils of human hands erode them over time.

After a while of walking, we came upon a cliffside, which led up to a rock ledge that overlooked the river we'd been walking On for most of the way. To think that we were walking the same path as the ancient Mayans had was awesome, to say the least. For respect and preservation, we had to take our shoes off here and use only our socks.

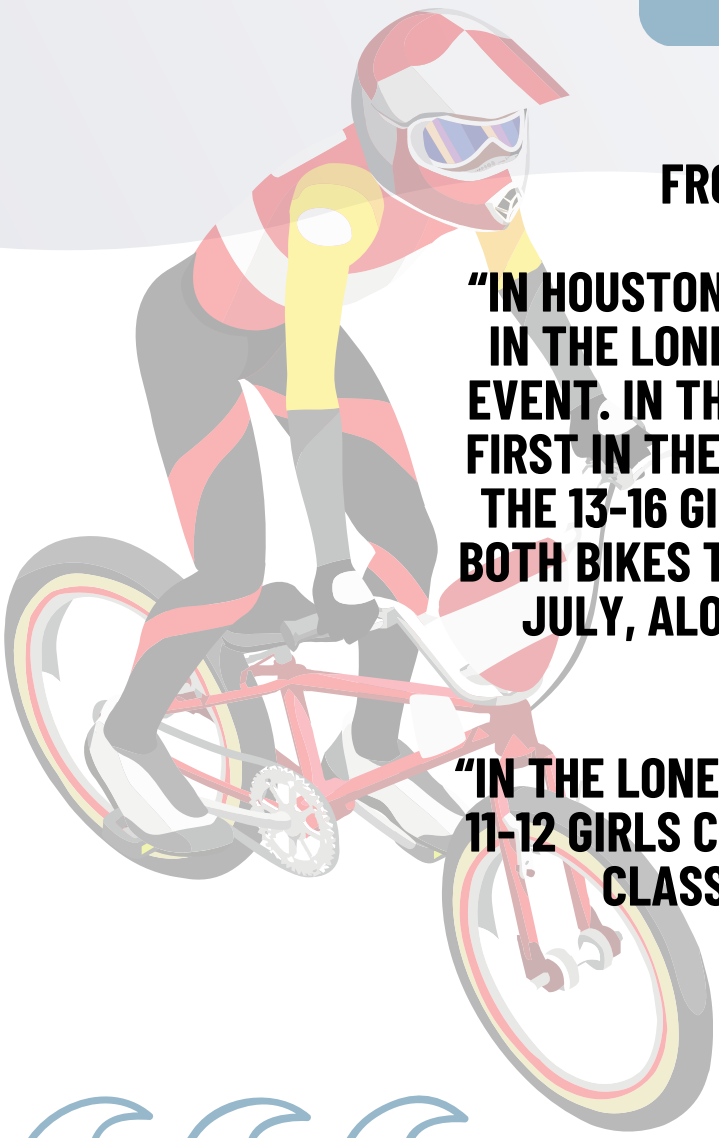
We eventually made it to a dry chamber in the caves, which is where we started to see the beginnings of the human sacrifices, as well as pots which were used for other sacrificial ceremonies. Some of these pots were broken, while others had been flawlessly preserved.

ORCA STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

TEYAH ELOFSON-CROSS



TEYAH ELOFSON-CROSS
GRADE 6



FROM THE PENINSULA DAILY NEWS:

"IN HOUSTON THIS PAST WEEKEND, [TEYAH] COMPETED IN THE LONE STAR NATIONAL, A UCIWORLD QUALIFIER EVENT. IN THE WORLD QUALIFIER FRIDAY, SHE FINISHED FIRST IN THE 13 GIRL CHALLENGE CLASS AND SECOND IN THE 13-16 GIRL CRUISER CLASS TO SECURE A SPOT FOR BOTH BIKES TO THE UCI BMX WORLDS IN COPENHAGEN IN JULY, ALONG WITH FOUR OTHER RIDERS FROM THE LINCOLN PARK BMX.

"IN THE LONE STAR NATIONAL, SHE PLACED FIRST IN THE 11-12 GIRLS CRUISER AND THIRD IN THE 12 GIRLS EXPERT CLASS ON BOTH SATURDAY AND SUNDAY."

ORCA STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

TEANNA CLARK



TEANNA CLARK,
GRADE 11

FROM THE PENINSULA DAILY NEWS:

"PORT ANGELES' TEANNA CLARK HAD THE BEST GAME OF HER HIGH SCHOOL CAREER THIS WEEKEND AT A TOURNAMENT IN BELLINGHAM.

"CLARK, WHO ALWAYS FILLS UP THE SCOREBOOK NEARLY EVERY GAME WITH ASSISTS, STEALS AND REBOUNDS, POURED IN 27 POINTS AGAINST THE SULTAN TURKS, SHOOTING 6-FOR-9 FROM 3-POINT RANGE, AS THE ROUGHRIDERS WON 66-32. SHE HAD 13 POINTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER ALONE AND ADDED FIVE ASSISTS AND FOUR STEALS.

"THE FOLLOWING DAY, IN A LOW-SCORING, DEFENSIVE GAME AGAINST CURTIS, THE RIDERS WON AGAIN 41-22 TO EVEN THEIR RECORD AT 4-4. CLARK HAD HER USUAL GOOD ALL-AROUND GAME GOING UP AGAINST A PHYSICAL CURTIS TEAM WITH SEVEN POINTS, FIVE ASSISTS, FIVE REBOUNDS AND FOUR STEALS."

Seaview Enrichment Gallery



MRS. GOCHNOUR, MRS. RHYNE, MRS. SMITHSON AND CLASS

VALENTINE'S DAY



MRS. GOCHNOUR'S CLASS



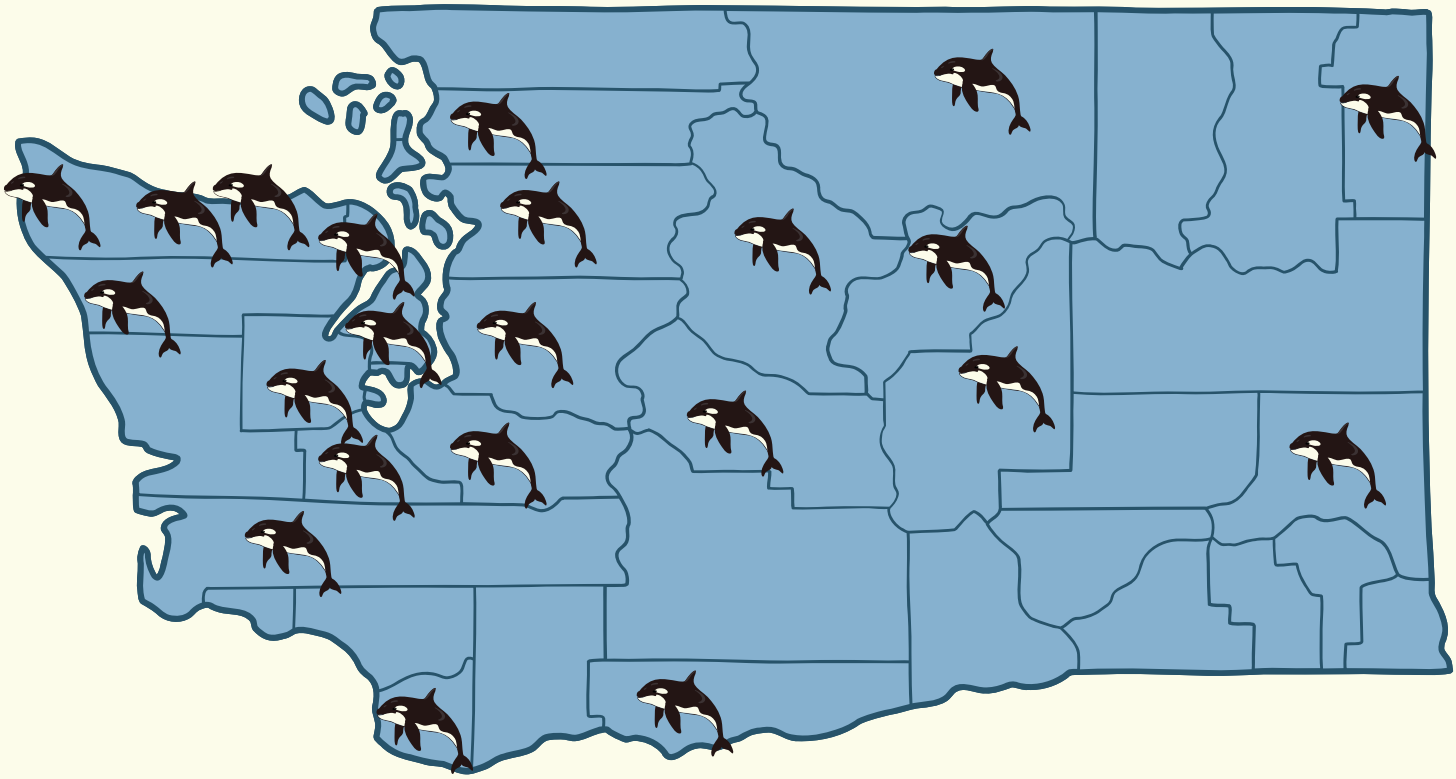


BENTLEY MOUNTS, GRADE 5, MADE 3D PRINTED VALENTINES



STUDENTS EXCHANGED VALENTINES

orcas across washington



did you know that we enroll students from all across washington state?

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

ANGELA TAMAS

NEW SEAVIEW TEACHER & GRADUATION SPECIALIST

ATAMAS@PORTANGELESSCHOOLS.ORG

Seaview Academy is delighted to welcome Angela Tamas to the team! Angela specializes in creating achievable contract-based opportunities for students who need performance-based pathways for graduation. She is an excellent educator who will be able to support all of our students and staff.

-Cheryl Gerardi, Seaview Mentor Teacher



WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

I WAS BORN IN CALIFORNIA, BUT I CONSIDER THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST HOME. I GREW UP IN PORT ANGELES AND ATTENDED THE PASD FROM 1ST THROUGH 12TH GRADE. THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA SHAPED MUCH OF WHO I AM, WITH OUR LANDSCAPES AND COMMUNITY.

WHAT IS YOUR ROLE HERE AT SEAVIEW?

I SERVE AS BOTH A TEACHER AND A GRADUATION SPECIALIST HERE AT SEAVIEW ACADEMY! I ALSO TEACH ART AND HISTORY IN PERSON.

SHARE A DETAIL OR TWO ABOUT YOUR FAMILY.

I HAVE THREE SISTERS, AND EDUCATION IS A BIG PART OF OUR FAMILY. ALL BUT ONE OF US ATTENDED THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON. MY HUSBAND, SON (6), AND I LOVE EXPLORING NATIONAL PARKS TOGETHER. OUR SON, LOUIS, HAS A PASSION FOR COMPETITIVE DANCE.

DO YOU HAVE HOBBIES?

I LOVE COOKING, GARDENING, AND PAINTING. I CAN NEVER TURN DOWN A GOOD BOARD GAME...

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

ANGELA TAMAS,

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We are so thrilled to have Angela as a part of our team. Her passion for the arts and dedication to the education of our students has had such a meaningful impact on our community. Her unique skills and experiences continue to enrich the lives of our students and fellow staff members. Welcome aboard, Angela!

-Kaitlin Smithson, Seaview Registrar

IF YOU COULD DO ANYTHING FOR ONE DAY, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

I WOULD BE AN ART RESTORER IN FLORENCE!

WHAT ABOUT JOINING SEAVIEW EXCITES YOU THE MOST?

I LOVE THE FLEXIBILITY OF SEAVIEW AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH STUDENTS FROM ALL OVER THE STATE. THE DIVERSITY OF SUBJECTS I GET TO ENGAGE WITH KEEPS EVERY DAY INTERESTING, AND I ENJOY SUPPORTING STUDENTS AS THEY CARVE THEIR OWN UNIQUE PATHS TO SUCCESS.

WHAT'S A FUN FACT THAT MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU?

I ONCE ATTENDED A SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE INTERNSHIP IN ARUSHA, TANZANIA! IT WAS AN INCREDIBLE EXPERIENCE THAT DEEPENED MY APPRECIATION FOR FOOD SYSTEMS, ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON SUSTAINABILITY.



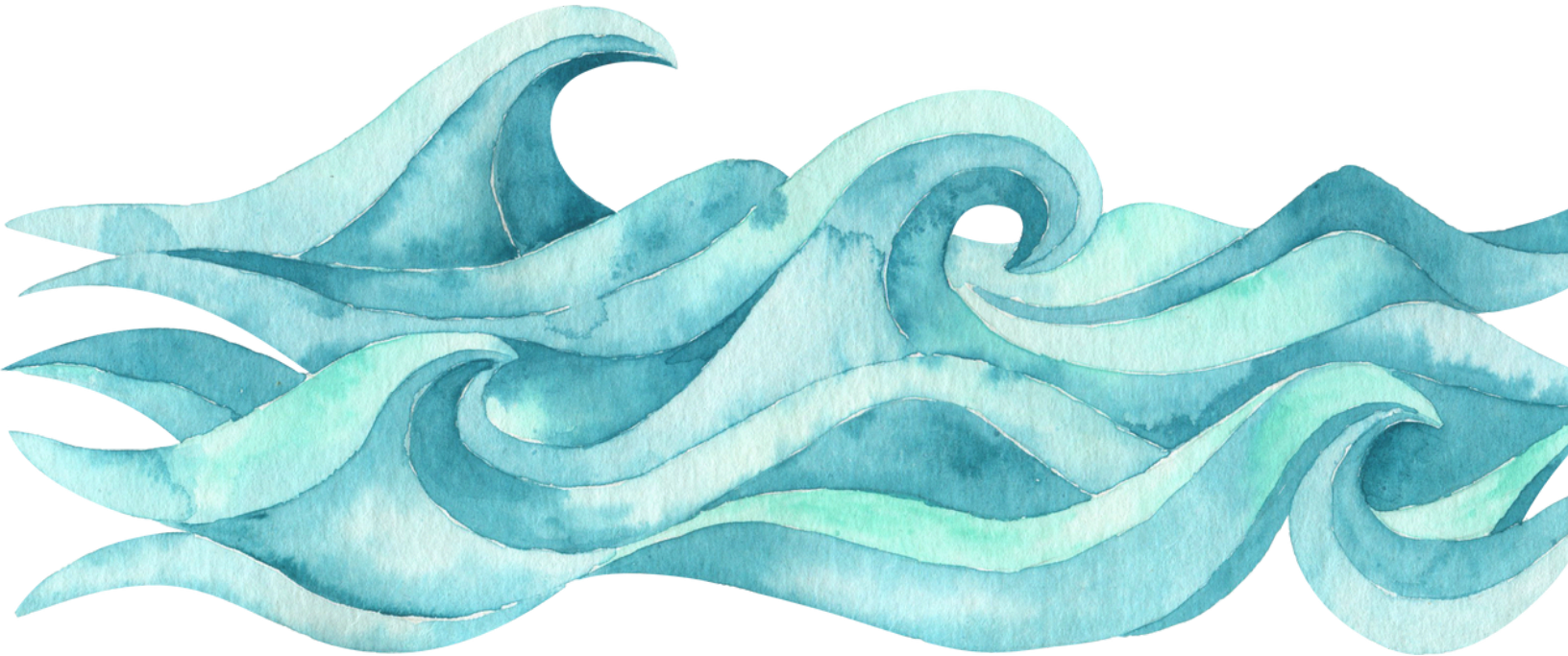
WELCOME, NEW SEAVIEW TEACHERS...

APRIL BUSCH
ABUSCH@PORTANGELESSCHOOLS.ORG

BONNIE CHRISTIANSON
BCHRISTIANSON@PORTANGELESSCHOOLS.ORG

SHANNON HAMBLIN
SHAMBLIN@PORTANGELESSCHOOLS.ORG

JOSH KRZYSIAK
JKRZYSIAK@PORTANGELESSCHOOLS.ORG



seaview student POV

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE A STUDENT JOINING ONLINE SCHOOL FOR THE FIRST TIME?

"I WOULD GIVE THEM ADVICE TO MAINTAIN A SOCIAL LIFE OUT OF SCHOOL. THAT BALANCE OF BEING ONLINE AND OFFLINE IS REALLY IMPORTANT, SO THEY CAN HAVE AN OVERALL GOOD MENTAL HEALTH, AND GOOD FRIENDSHIPS."

"SET TIMERS FOR EACH CLASS SO THAT YOU DON'T GET OVERWHELMED WITH ONE CLASS."

"REMEMBER TO MAKE A SCHEDULE, IT'S IMPORTANT FOR EVERY CLASS AND REMEMBERING TO TAKE BREAKS. MAKING A SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY MAKES EVERYTHING EASIER."



"THE ADVICE I WOULD GIVE WOULD MOSTLY BE AROUND TURNING IN ATTENDANCE. IT IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PARTS OF ONLINE SCHOOL. AS WELL AS ADVICE ON READING EMAILS, FROM EXPERIENCE I KNOW THAT KEEPING UP TO DATE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF ONLINE SCHOOL."

"ALWAYS POWER THROUGH THE ASSIGNMENTS EVERY SINGLE DAY EVEN IF YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE DOING THEM, TO ENSURE YOU STAY CAUGHT UP. ALSO REMEMBER TO TAKE NOTES AND STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR TEACHERS!"

SAVE THE DATE

SBA TESTING -
GRADES 3-8, 10

GRADE 11 - CONTACT YOUR MENTOR TEACHER

APRIL 21-MAY 9

SIGN UPS WILL GO OUT VIA EMAIL



SEAVIEW ACADEMY GRADUATION

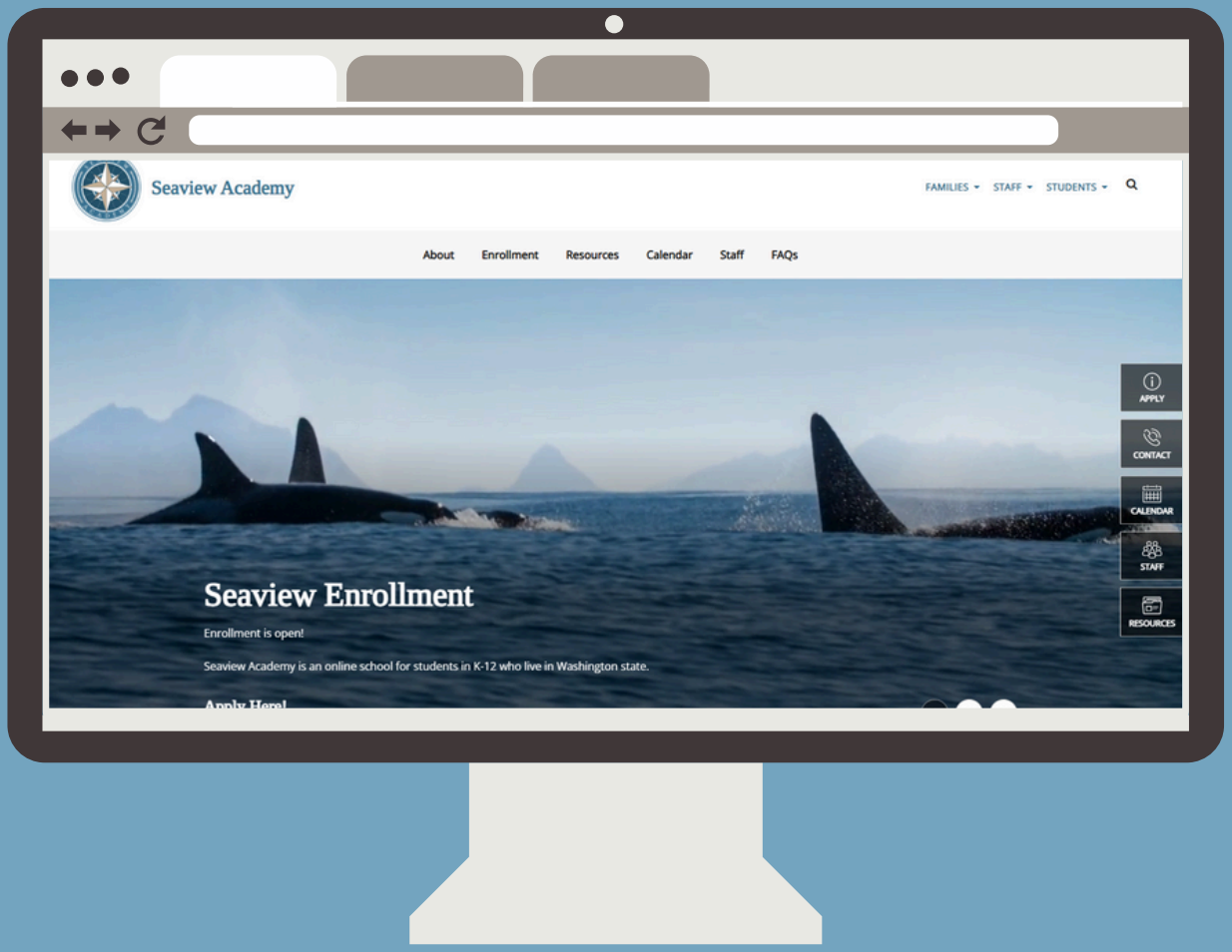
IS IN PERSON!

JUNE 10th AT 6 PM

Field Arts & Events Hall

201 W Front St,
Port Angeles, WA 98362
https://fieldhallevents.org/

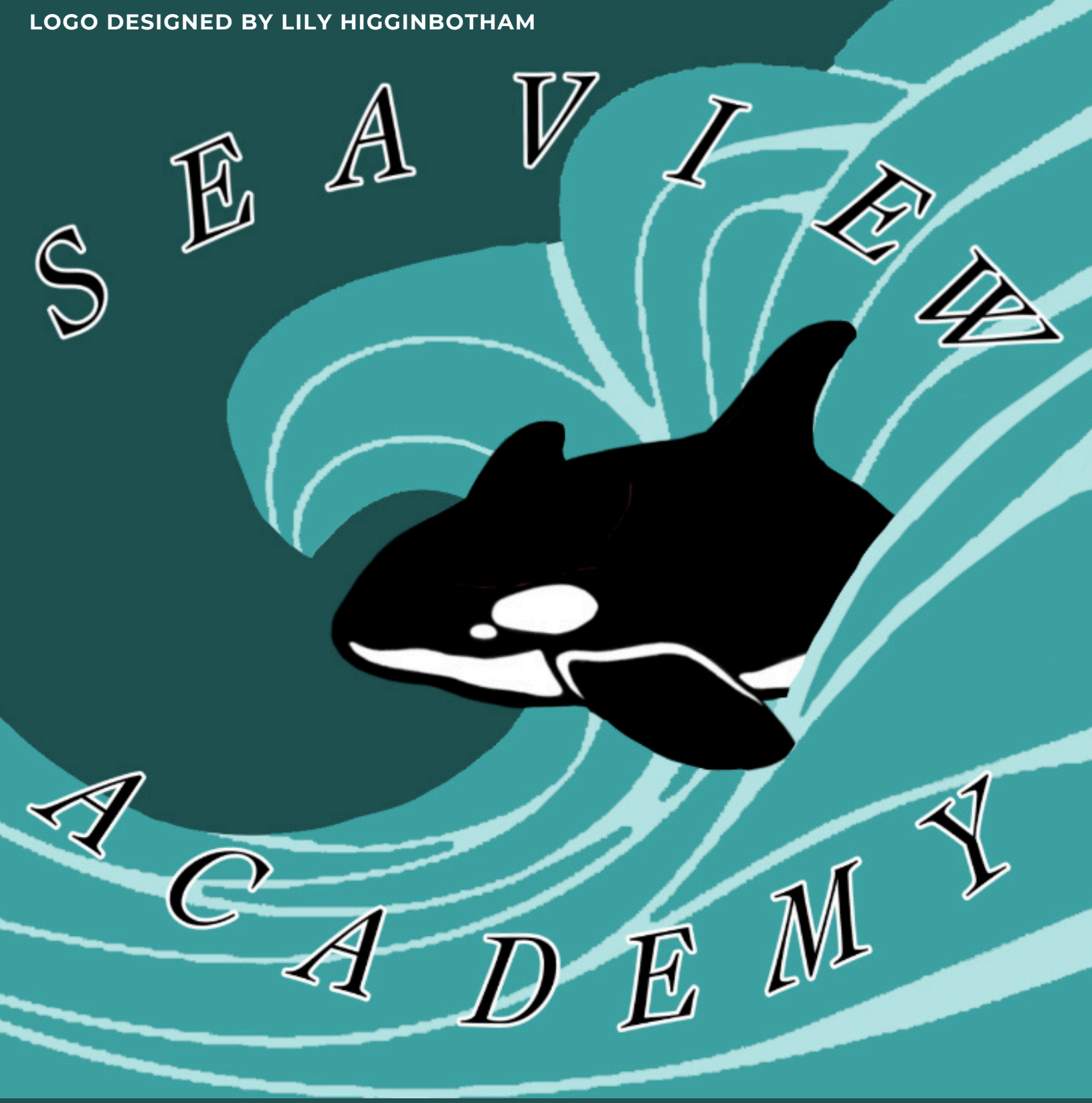
LIVESTREAM COMPONENT AVAILABLE
CAP/GOWN ORDERING COMING SOON
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW



The Seaview Website has been updated!

Check it out at: SeaviewAcademy.org for updated information, resources, frequently asked questions, and more!

LOGO DESIGNED BY LILY HIGGINBOTHAM



STAFF

MACE GRATZ, PRINCIPAL
VICKI HELWICK, DEAN/TEACHER
JASON GOODING, COUNSELOR
KAITLIN SMITHSON, REGISTRAR
HALEY HELWICK, SECRETARY
APRIL BUSCH, TEACHER
ALEX CARLSON, TEACHER
BONNIE CHRISTIANSON, TEACHER
PAULA ELAM, TEACHER
CHERYL GERARDI, TEACHER
STEPHANIE GOCHNOUR, TEACHER
SHANNON HAMBLIN, TEACHER
SHAWNE JOHNSON, TEACHER
JOSH KRZYSIAK, TEACHER
LOUISA MONGER, SPED TEACHER
ERIC PICKENS, TEACHER
JANICE RHYNE, TEACHER
CASEY SHEA, SPED TEACHER
ANGELA TAMAS, TEACHER
EVERETT YOUNG, TEACHER